- The levy obligation on sugar factories has been enhanced from 10% to 20% of production *w.e.f.* 01.10.2009 for 2009-10 sugar season only, *vide* notification dated 7th October, 2009.

1.1 Besides augmenting the sugar stocks by permitting import of raw and white/refined sugar in 2008-09 sugar season, the Central Government has imposed stock holding and turnover limits to moderate prices of sugar as follows:

– Stock-holding and turnover limits on sugar dealers *vide* notification dated 12,03.2009 for a period of four months, and thereafter for another period of six months *i.e.* upto 08.01.2010 *vide* the notification dated 16.7.2009. Further, Khandsari sugar has now been brought under the ambit of stockholding and turnover limit.

– An order has been issued *vide* notification dated 22.08.2009 imposing stockholding limit on large consumers of sugar who are using or consuming more than ten quintals of sugar per month as a raw material for production or consumption or use, stipulating that such bulk consumers shall not hold sugar stock exceeding fifteen days of their requirement. The notification has come into effect from 19.9.2009.

– Futures trade in sugar has been suspended in domestic exchanges *w.e.f.* 27.5.2009 till the end of 2009.

Rotting imported pulses

175. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several lakh tonnes of imported pulses remained stocked at Kolkata and other ports in July, 2009 when prices of pulses soared due to their shortage;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantity of pulses rotten in this process and became unfit for human consumption;

(d) whether the matter has been enquired into to find out whether this was a deliberate act and conspiracy to create shortage and increase prices of pulses in the market; and

(e) the steps taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No, Sir; The 4 PSUs such as NAFED, PEC, STC and MMTC are authorized to import pulses. Accordingly, the facts in this regard as reported by the 4 PSUs are as follows:-

i) NAFED reported that as on 31.7.2009, 5979 MTs of Yellow peas was stocked at Kolkata Port Trust. The above stock was stored at Kolkata Port Trust due to the delay in clearance from health authorities.

ii) PEC, STC and MMTC reported that there are no stocks of imported pulses lying at Kolkata Port.

(c) NAFED has confirmed that no stock of Yellow Peas was damaged at Kolkata Port Trust.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Government of India has taken steps to discourage storage of these commodities in the Port area and early transport outside.

Price rise of essential commodities

176. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that prices of essential commodities are rising continuously;

(b) if so, the details of the prices of essential items increased since last one year till date, item-wise and month-wise;

(c) whether Government is taking any step to effectively control the price rise in the interest of common man;

(d) whether Government is considering to make available wheat, onion, oil and other essential items in retail stores throughout the country to control the price rise; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The details of the prices of essential items since last one year till date, item-wise and month-wise is given in the enclosed Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) The Government Measures to check the prices of essential commodities are given in the enclosed Statement-II (*See* below).

(d) and (e) The Government will release 30 lakh tonnes of tonnes of rice under OMSS (D) scheme for September to December 2009. Allocation of 10 lakh tonnes of wheat and 5 lakh tonnes of rice to State Governments has been made. In addition 5 lakh tonnes of wheat for sale by FCI to bulk consumers through tenders has been made. The wheat and rice allocated to the States is to be distributed through Corporations/Cooperatives/Federations/Self-helped groups or any other Government or semi- Government organizations of States/UTs. The State Governments is also allowed to sell wheat to small processors of wheat like chakkies, bakeries. Quantity and rates of allocation to State Governments and lifting position by States is given in the enclosed Statement-III and IV.

Statement-I

All India Average Retail Prices for past one year

Commodities	Oct 2008	Nov 2008	Dec 2008	Jan 2009	Feb 2009	Mar 2009	Apr 2009	May 2009	Jun 2009
Rice	16.63	16.65	16.78	16.84	17	17.03	17.13	17.28	17.28
Wheat	13.75	13.71	13.74	13.87	13.94	14.03	14.08	14.03	13.98
Gram	35.63	35.32	34.97	34.49	34.44	34.3	34.18	33.95	33.84
Tur	45.43	45.65	45.75	45.59	46.97	47.98	49.74	51.55	53.24
Sugar	20.41	20.16	20.34	21.01	22	22.75	23.57	24.69	25.06
Milk	20.9	20.83	20.93	21.1	21,12	21.17	21.29	21.52	21.72
Potato	9.09	9.21	8.68	8.44	7.98	8.03	9.1	10.14	11.28
Onion	11.54	12.55	14.17	15.93	15.64	15.14	14.07	12.08	11.76

						% variation for the last			
Commodities	Jul 2009	Aug 2009	Sep 2009	Oct 2009	Nov 2009	1 month back	3 month back	6 month back	1 year back
Rice	17.39	17.59	17.78	18.22	18.36	0.77	4.38	6.25	10.27
Wheat	14.12	14.35	14.52	14.81	15.12	2.09	5.37	7.77	10.28
Gram	34.95	35.98	35.68	35.49	35.64	0.42	-0.94	4.98	0.91
Tur	60.55	68.64	70.73	71.04	73.73	3.79	7.42	43.03	61.51
Sugar	25.58	27.63	29.67	30.16	3103	2.88	12.31	25.68	53.92
Milk	21.72	21.96	22.13	22.21	22.21	0.00	1.14	3.21	6.63
Potato	13.01	14.15	15.42	17.36	18.57	6.97	31.24	83.14	101.63
Onion	12.19	12.23	12.43	16.76	18.82	12.29	53.88	55.79	49.96

Source: State Civil Supplies Department.

Statement-II

Measures taken by Government to control prices of essential commodities

1. Fiscal Measures

(i) Reduced import duties to zero - for sugar, rice, wheat, pulses, edible oils (crude) and maize;

(ii) Reduced import duties on refined & hydrogenated oils & vegetable oils to 7.5%;

(iii) Allowed import of raw sugar at zero duty under O.G.L upto 1.8.2009 by sugar mills (notified on 17.4.2009). This has since been extended up to31.3.2010.

(iv Allowed import of raw sugar at zero duty under O.G.L. up to 01.08.2009 by sugar mills (notified on 17,04.2009). This has since been extended up to 31.3.2010 (notified on 17.4.2009). Furthermore, import of raw sugar has been opened to private trade up to 31.3.2010 for being processed by domestic factories on job basis (notified on 31.7.2009).

(v) Allowed import of white/refined sugar by STC/MMTC/PEC and NAFED up to 1 million tons by 01,08.2009 under O.G.L. at zero duty (notified on 17.04.2009). This has since been extended upto 30.11.2009. Furthermore, the duty free import of white/refined sugar under OGL has been opened to other Central/State Government agencies and to private trade in addition to existing designated agencies.

(vi) Removed levy obligation in respect of imported raw sugar and white/refined sugar.

2. Administrative Measures

(vii) Permitted the export of edible oils in branded consumer packs of up to 5 kgs, subject to a limit of 10,000 tonnes up to 30th September 2010.

(viii) Permitted export of wheat and wheat products (atta, maida and suji) on private account after 15th May 2009, with a cap of 2 million tonnes in 2009-10.

(ix) Banned export of non-basmati rice, edible oils and pulses (except kabuli chana).

(x) Effected no changes in Tariff Rate Values of edible oils;

(xi) Imposed stock limit orders in the case of paddy, rice, pulses, sugar, edible oils and edible oilseeds upto 31.9.2010;

(xii) Using Minimum Export Price (MEP) to regulate exports of onion (averaging at $445 per tonne for October 2009) and basmati rice ($900 PMT);

(xiii) Maintaining the Central Issue Price (CIP) for rice (at Rs. 5.65 per kg for BPL and Rs. 3 per kg for AAY) and wheat (at Rs. 4.15 per kg for BPL and Rs. 2 per kg for AAY) over the last five years;

(xiv) Futures trading in Rice, Urad and Tur suspended by the Forward Market Commission in the year 2007-08 and continues during 2009-10. Futures trading in sugar was suspended *w.e.f.* 27.5.2009 upto 31st December, 2009.

(xv) Distribution of imported edible oils to States/UTs at a subsidy of Rs.15/kg.

(xvi) To augment availability of pulses, permitted the Public Sector Undertakings (namely, STC, MMTC, and PEC) and NAFED to import and sell pulses under a scheme and the losses, if any, up to 15% are reimbursed by the Government.

(xvii) Distribution of imported pulses through PDS at a subsidy of Rs.10 per kg to State Governments.

(xviii) Permitted sugar factories to sell processed raw sugar in the domestic market and fulfil export obligation on ton to ton basis.

(xix) Increased quota of levy sugar to 20% with effect from 1.10.2009.

(xx) For the month of Nov. 2009, a quantity of 15.00 lakh tons of non levy sugar has been made available which includes 10.50 lakh tons of normal non-levy sugar and 1.45 lakh tons of refined raw sugar imported by sugar mills. The estimated availability out of imported white/refined sugar is about 1.50 lac ton. Besides, the validity period of Oct. 2009 non-levy quota has since been extended for the first fortnight up to 25.10.2009 and for the second fortnight upto 10.11.2009, it is expected about 1.55 lakh ton of sugar would be spill over quota of Oct. 09.

Statement-III

(A) The lifting position of rice by State/UT Governments for distribution to retail consumers under OMSS (D)

For October, 2009 - December, 2009

As on 13.11.2009 (Qty. in MT)

Sl. No.	Zone	Name of the State/UT	Allotment	Lifting
1	2	3	4	5
1	North	Delhi	8361	0
2		Chandigarh	0	0
3		Punjab	0	0
4		Haryana	0	0
5		Uttar Pradesh	1593	0
6		Uttarakhand	2196	0
7		Rajasthan	39	0
8		Himachal Pradesh	8780	0
9		J & K	24684	0
10	South	Tamil Nadu	126422	30132
11		Puducherry	4	0

1	2	3	4	5
12		Kerala	25675	0
13		Andhra Pradesh	152753	0
14		A&N Islands	650	0
15		Lakshadweep	206	0
16		Karnataka	59215	0
17	East	Bihar	2	0
18		West Bengal	7963	0
19		Sikkim	1897	0
20		Orissa	704	0
21		Jharkhand	20	0
22	North-East	Assam	41508	0
23		Arunachal Pradesh	3674	0
24		Meghalaya	4478	0
25		Tripura	10368	0
26		Mizoram	3549	0
27		Nagaland	5871	0
28		Manipur	2756	0
29	West	Maharashtra	3210	0
30		Goa	1406	0
31		Madhya Pradesh	351	0
32		Chhattisgarh	960	0
33		Gujarat	600	0
34		Daman & Diu	7	0
35		D & N Haveli	100	0
	TOTAL		500000	30132

(B) The rates for sale of rice to State/UT Governments
under open market sale scheme (D) For the month of October-December, 2009

OMSS (D) rate for Raw Rice Grade 'A'	OMSS (D) rate for Raw Rice Common	OMSS (D) rate for Parboiled Rice Grade 'A'	OMSS (D) rate for Parboiled Rice Common
1540.06	1495.28	1518.55	1474.43

Revised rates for sale of rice (w.e.f. 6.11.09)
For the month of November-December, 2009

OMSS (D) rate for Raw Rice Grade 'A'	OMSS (D) rate for Raw Rice Common	OMSS (D) rate for Parboiled Rice Grade 'A'	OMSS (D) rate for Parboiled Rice Common
1614.68	1569.91	1592.08	1547.96

Statement-IV

(A) The lifting position of wheat by State/UT Governments for distribution to retail consumers under OMSS (D)

For October, 2009 - December, 2009

As on : 13.11.2009 (Qty. in MT)

Sl.No.	Zone	Name of the State/UT	Allotment	OMSS (D) Rate (in Rs. per qtl.)	Lifting
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	North	Delhi	80481	1113.47	0
2		Chandigarh	0	1099.28	0
3		Punjab	88982	1099.28	0
4		Haryana	19522	1099.28	0
5		Uttar Pradesh	51518	1145.63	0
6		Uttarakhand	26477	1120.74	0
7		Rajasthan	86932	1133.48	0
8		Himachal Pradesh	49523	1154.12	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
9		J & K	40264	1109.54	0
10	South	Tamil Nadu	30893	1260.74	0
11		Puducherry	380	1269.81	0
12		Kerala	40660	1295.74	0
13		Andhra Pradesh	8239	1239.56	0
14		A&N Islands	798	1499.03	0
15		Lakshadweep	0	1359.76	0
16		Karnataka	18032	1266.43	0
17	East	Bihar	5332	1186.06	0
18		West Bengal	182990	1220.63	0
19		Sikkim	738	1260.15	0
20		Orissa	31807	1238.31	0
21		Jharkhand	3149	1211.60	0
22	North-East	Assam	66247	1233.52	0
23		Arunachal Pradesh	1535	1288.50	0
24		Meghalaya	3677	1284.78	0
25		Tripura	4472	1342.22	0
26		Mizoram	1885	1324.55	0
27		Nagaland	7572	1268.73	0
28		Manipur	3162	1393.63	0
29	West	Maharashtra	68267	1217.03	0
30		Goa	1604	1259.73	0
31		Madhya Pradesh	53885	1170.00	5.5
32		Chhattisgarh	4939	1224.14	0
33		Gujarat	15991	1178.05	0
34		Daman & Diu	0	1237.26	0
35		D & N Haveli	45	1220.62	0
	TOTAL :		999998		5.5

(B) The status of tenders floated for sale of wheat to bulk consumers under OMSS (D)

For October, 2009 - December, 2009

As on 13.11.2009 (Qty. in MT)

Sl.No.		Zone Region/State Govt.	Name of FCI (October, 09 - December, 09)	Allotment Rates for October,2009 (Rate : Rs. Per quintal)	OMSS (D) Rates for November, 2009 (Rate : Rs. Per quintal)	OMSS (D) Rates for December, 2009 (Rate : Rs. Per quintal)	OMSS (D) Tender floated	Whether NIT	Date of Opening	Date of
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	North	Delhi	82,422	1404.14	1420.94	1437.90	No	14.11.2009		
2		Chandigarh	7,209	1389.95	1406.75	1423.71	No	13.11.2009		
3		Punjab	33,244	1389.95	1406.75	1423.71	No	13.11.2009		
4		Haryana	16,772	1389.95	1406.75	1423.71	No	13.11.2009		
5		Uttar Pradesh	23,152	1436.30	1453.10	1470.06	No	14.11.2009		
6		Uttarakhand	20,269	1411.41	1428.21	1445.17	No	14.11.2009		
7		Rajasthan	7,532	1424.15	1440.95	1457.91	No	12.11.2009		
8		Himachal Pradesh	1,425	1444.79	1461.59	1478.55	No	14.11.2009		
9		J & K	25,746	1400.21	1417.01	1433.97	No	13.11.2001		
10	South	Tamil Nadu	38,381	1551.41	1568.21	1585.17	Yes	11.11.2009		
11		Puducherry	2,810	1560.48	1577.28	1594.24	Yes	11.11.2009		
12		Kerala	29,235	1586.41	1603.21	1620.17	Yes	11.11.2009		
13		Andhra Pradesh	30,396	1530.23	1547.03	1563.99	Yes	12.11.2009		
14		A&N Islands	0	1789.70	1806.50	1823.46	-	-		